

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07
EA-07 FRB-03 INR-07 IO-13 NEA-10 NSAE-00 USIA-06
OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 LAB-04 EPG-02 SIL-01
AGRE-00 OMB-01 STR-04 SS-15 NSC-05 L-03 H-01
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R 082037Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5448

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EGEN, OECD
SUBJECT: OECD COUNCIL DISCUSSION OF PLANNING ISSUES
WITH RESPECT TO 1978 PROGRAM OF WORK AND BUDGET

REF: OECD DOCUMENT C (77) 131

1. FOLLOWING ARE TALKING POINTS FROM WHICH AMBASSADOR
SALZMAN SPOKE AT JULY 7 OECD COUNCIL MEETING IN
DISCUSSING PLANNING ISSUES:

2. INTRODUCTION.-

(A) MY DELEGATION WELCOMES THIS OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS
PLANNING ISSUES RELATED TO THE PREPARATION OF THE 1978
PROGRAM OF WORK AND BUDGET ALTHOUGH BECAUSE OF TIME
CONSTRAINTS IT WAS OBVIOUSLY NOT POSSIBLE TO CONSULT
WASHINGTON.

(B) IN GENERAL WE CONSIDER C (77) 131 TO BE AN
EXCELLENT PAPER, REFLECTING VERY CLOSELY THE PRIORITIES
LAID DOWN BY THE RECENT MINISTERIAL MEETING. ALTHOUGH
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I MUST EMPHASIZE THAT AT THIS STAGE I DO NOT HAVE THE
VIEWS OF MY AUTHORITIES ON THE APPROPRIATE OVERALL LEVEL
OF THE 1978 BUDGET, I AM SURE THEIR FIRST CONCERN WILL
BE THAT ALL PRIORITY ACTIVITIES WILL BE ADEQUATELY
FUNDED AND STAFFED AND THEY WILL WELCOME YOUR STATEMENT
OF INTENTION TO HOLD THE OVERALL BUDGET VERY CLOSE TO
THE 1977 LEVEL IN DOING SO. I ALSO WELCOME YOUR EFFORT,

ILLUSTRATED IN THE PAPER, TO DEFINE MORE CLEARLY THE INTERRELATIONSHIPS AMONG THE VARIOUS ACTIVITIES OF THIS ORGANIZATION AND TO ENCOURAGE GREATER HORIZONTAL COORDINATION WITHIN THE SECRETARIAT IN DEALING WITH THEM.

3. ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS DIRECTORATE (ESD).-

(A) GENERALLY, WE FEEL THAT THE PRIORITIES IDENTIFIED IN PARAS 8 AND 23 ARE CONSISTENT WITH THE DECISIONS TAKEN AT THE MINISTERIAL AND WITH OUR PRELIMINARY REACTIONS CONCERNING THE PROPER ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES WITHIN THE ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS DIRECTORATE.

(B) WE AGREE THAT IT IS IMPORTANT THAT ADDITIONAL RESOURCES SHOULD BE DEVOTED TO IMPROVING AND EXPANDING STATISTICS TO SUPPORT WORK ON ECONOMIC ANALYSIS;(FORECASTING AND POLICY FORMULATION. MOREOVER, IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO IMPROVE THE STATISTICAL DATA BASE FOR SHORT-TERM INDICATORS AS WELL AS SECTORAL AND STRUCTURAL DATA ON INDUSTRY.

(C) (TO BE USED IF OTHER DELEGATIONS ARGUE AGAINST PERMANENT STAFFING FOR EAST-WEST WORK WITHIN THIS DIRECTORATE.)

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THIS RELATIONSHIP IS LIKELY TO CONTINUE TO GROW IN IMPORTANCE, AND WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S COMMENTS ON THIS REQUEST.

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4. ENVIRONMENT -

(A) REGARDING URBAN CONCERNS, OUR AUTHORITIES ARE NOW PREPARING PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, TO FOLLOW UP THE PROPOSAL MADE AT THE COUNCIL AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL.

(B) THE U.S. ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE EXCELLENT WORK NOW IN PROGRESS ON CONTROL OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES IN THE CHEMICALS GROUP OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE.

5. DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION DIRECTORATE -
RELATIONS WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES -

(A) BOTH PARAGRAPHS 10 AND 19 RELATE TO THE MATTER OF NORTH/SOUTH RELATIONS, WHICH WAS ONE OF THE TWO MAIN ITEMS DISCUSSED AT THE RECENT OECD MINISTERIAL.

(B) WE PLACE HIGH PRIORITY ON THE BASIC HUMAN NEEDS
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APPROACH. OUR SPOKESMEN AT THE DAC MEETING TAKING PLACE RIGHT NOW ARE GOING INTO DETAIL REGARDING OUR IDEAS ON BASIC HUMAN NEEDS THAT WERE AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN SECRETARY VANCE'S SPEECH AT THE MINISTERIAL.

(C) COORDINATION OF THE ORGANIZATION'S WORK ON NORTH/SOUTH IS IMPORTANT. WE PRAISE WHAT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED IN THIS RESPECT FOR THE TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ISSUE, WITH THE DAC, CSTP, AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER ALL INVOLVED IN AN ORDERLY WAY.

(D) PARA 10, AS WRITTEN, SEEMS TO IMPLY THAT THE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION DIRECTORATE WILL DO EVERYTHING IN THE NORTH/SOUTH AREA. WE ARE SURE THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL INTENDS TO AVOID DUPLICATION OF THE WORK BETWEEN THIS AND OTHER BODIES, AND WOULD WELCOME A MORE

EXPLICIT INDICATION FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON HOW
NORTH-SOUTH WORK IS TO BE ALLOCATED AND COORDINATED
WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION.

6. FINANCIAL AND FISCAL AFFAIRS DIRECTOR -

WHILE WE ARE GENERALLY SATISFIED WITH THE PRESENT WORK
PROGRAM CONCERNING FISCAL, FINANCIAL AND INVESTMENT
AFFAIRS, WE BELIEVE THAT PARAGRAPH 12 DOES NOT CLEARLY
REFLECT THAT WORK PROGRAM. FOR EXAMPLE:

(A) IN THE SECOND SENTENCE, WHERE IT IS STATED THAT IN
THE FIELD OF COMPETITION POLICY THE ROLE OF MNE'S WILL
NEED INTENSIFIED STUDY IN 1978, WE ARE PUZZLED ABOUT
THE MEANING OF THIS PHRASE, GIVEN THE FACT THAT THE
COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON RESTRICTED BUSINESS PRACTICES
JUST RECENTLY COMPLETED A MAJOR STUDY ON COMPETITION
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POLICY AND MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES (RBP(77)1).

(B) WE FIND IT RATHER PECULIAR THAT THE MAIN ACTIVITY
CITED IN THE SPHERE OF FINANCIAL QUESTIONS IS THE
DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW PUBLICATION CALLED "FINANCIAL
MARKET TRENDS". THIS PUBLICATION HAS ALREADY BEEN

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PRODUCED. WHILE ITS CONTENT SHOULD OF COURSE BE BROADENED AS TIME GOES ON, THIS PUBLICATION IS HARDLY THE MAIN FOCUS IN THIS AREA.

7. SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INDUSTRY -

(A) I WOULD LIKE TO NOTE OUR AGREEMENT WITH THE THIRD SENTENCE OF PARA 13 IN WHICH THE SECRETARY GENERAL STATES: "THE WORK IN THE INDUSTRY SUB-PROGRAM ON INDUSTRIAL ADAPTATION AND CHANGES IN INDUSTRIAL SECTORS, FUTURE INDUSTRIAL STRUCTURES, AND INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT AND INVESTMENT PROBLEMS...DESERVE HIGH PRIORITY".

(B) I BELIEVE THE ORGANIZATION NEEDS TO PROCEED FURTHER IN MICRO-ECONOMIC ANALYSES TO SUPPORT OUR BASIC STRATEGY FOR NON-INFLATIONARY EXPANSION.

(C) MY GOVERNMENT ATTACHES PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO THE WORK ON MEDIUM-TERM INVESTMENT REQUIREMENTS.
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8. SOCIAL AFFAIRS, MANPOWER & EDUCATION.-

MY DELEGATION IS PLEASED TO NOTE THE REFERENCE IN PARA 14 TO THE YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT CONFERENCE. WE ALSO FEEL QUITE STRONGLY THAT ADEQUATE RESOURCES MUST BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR BOTH PREPARATORY AND FOLLOW-UP WORK FOR THIS CONFERENCE.

9. EAST-WEST ECONOMIC RELATIONS.-

(A) WITH REGARD TO THE EXERCISE ON EAST-WEST ECONOMIC RELATIONS, I WOULD LIKE TO DRAW SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S OBSERVATION THAT THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN SPECIAL SESSION WILL UNDERTAKE A BROAD REVIEW OF THIS WORK NEXT FALL.

(B) UNTIL THIS FIRST SUBSTANTIVE REVIEW HAS BEEN COMPLETED, IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO COME TO ANY DEFINITE JUDGMENTS ABOUT NEXT YEAR'S RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS.
SALZMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BUDGETS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS
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Sent Date: 08-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PARIS19997
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770243-0816
Format: TEL
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770777/aaaacpcc.tel
Line Count: 277
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Litigation History:
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1921086
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OECD COUNCIL DISCUSSION OF PLANNING ISSUES WITH RESPECT TO 1978 PROGRAM OF WORK AND BUDGET
TAGS: EGEN, OECD
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/feae8a6e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009